

February 12, 1996 LB 754A, 1044

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Bohlke. Any discussion on LB 754A? Seeing none, Senator Bohlke, to close. Closing is waived. The question before you is the advancement of LB 754A. All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Please record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Madam President, on the advancement of 754A.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: LB 754A advances. LB 1044.

CLERK: Madam President, LB 1044, originally introduced by Senators Wesely and Withem and a number of members. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 4 of this year, at that time was referred to the Health and Human Services Committee for hearing. The bill was advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments pending by Health and Human Services. (Standing Committee amendment, AM2978, can be found on page 682 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The Chair recognizes Senator Wesely to open on the committee amendments.

SENATOR WESLEY: Thank you, Madam President, members. I know some people rise and tell you that they're bringing a very big issue or a big amendment, but I don't think anybody has had as big of an amendment as the one I'm offering to you today. It's a 470-page amendment, now that's single spaced. If we normally would do this double spaced, you would have almost a 1,000-page amendment before you. But let me assure you that it is almost, except for the first two pages, simply, in a sense, a reviewer's amendment that takes the different changes embodied in LB 1044 and places them in the appropriate statutes. We've taken all the statutes affecting health and human services, that are now scattered among five agencies, and brought them together and placed the entities and the services and the programs under the appropriate entities created by LB 1044. So, if you look at the bulk of the committee amendment, you will find mostly just clarification in the statutes of the references to these programs. Now let me tell you about the actual substantive changes in the bill that are made by the committee amendments, and I would...one of the problems, when you start with committee amendments, is you don't get to talk about the bill very much.